

I support media diversity

Don't give away power! The FCC is the only sane force stopping totalmonopolic gonclomeration of today's media! I'm talking about Docket No.

02-277, The Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules.

In its goals to promote competition, diversity and localism in today's media market, I strongly believe that the FCC should retain all of the current media ownership rules now in question. These rules serve the public interest by limiting the market power of already huge companies in the broadcast industry.

I do not believe that the studies commissioned by the FCC accurately demonstrate what will happen if deregulation goes through. The amount of media sources available is only significant if said companies are not all owned by the same source.

America is synonymous with freedom of speech. Democracy can only be served by diverse expression and diverse communication. If the FCC allows our media outlets to merge, our ability to have open, informed discussion with a wide variety of viewpoints will be significantly compromised by those without the common good in their interests.

The public interest will best be served by preserving media ownership rules in question in this proceeding.

In addition to the official hearing on this matter in Richmond, VA, I strongly urge the FCC to hold additional hearings elsewhere around the nation to solicit the widest possible participation from the public which will be the most directly affected by the outcomes of these decisions. I think it is important for the FCC to not only consider the points of view of those with a financial interest in this issue, but also those with a social or civic interest.

With the serious impact these rule changes will have on our democracy, it is incumbent on the Commission to take the time to review these issues more thoroughly and allow the American people to have a meaningful say in the process. Please don't let us down.

Sincerely,

Laura Litman
Employment Counselor
Chicago Women In Trades